

The Family Prayer Center
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Who is the Greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven? – September Letter 2023

Matthew 18:1 At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?

Matthew 18:2 And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them,

Matthew 18:3 And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 18:4 Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

Dear Friend,

In the setting of the above verses, the disciples of Jesus came to Him with a question. They wanted to know who would be the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. Make no mistake about it, their intentions were not based on a heart that wanted to serve, but rather wanted to be served. They wanted to know how they could be exalted so that men would respect them above other men.

Jesus, who was the master teacher, did something by way of example to teach His disciples a vital kingdom truth. He called a little child and set the little boy in their midst. We are not told the name of the little boy, his age, name, or who his parents were. Perhaps he was a child belonging to one of the disciples. We just don't know. What we do know from scripture is that he was a "little child," a reference to his adolescence, and that he was a boy from the pronoun "him."

Because Jesus called the child over to Himself, we know that the little boy was at least old enough to understand and to physically respond to Jesus' request. The Lord's request would not have come to this little child in a harsh command as to say, "Come here now!" but rather in a loving, gentle request for the little boy to come over and visit with Jesus. I can see the loving smile on Jesus' face as He called the little boy to come and stand next to Him. According to scripture, we see that there was no delay in his response, nor was there any questioning of the reasons why. Just simple obedience! Perhaps Jesus held his hand to comfort him as he spoke to His disciples. We just don't know. But I'm sure that this little fellow felt somewhat conspicuous standing in a circle of grown men looking down on him as being the center piece of Jesus' teaching example.

The child standing next to Jesus had already demonstrated the lesson that Jesus was about to teach them. He had responded without delay. He had responded without a pretense of why or "What do I get if I come?" He simply responded because Jesus had asked him to do so.

Jesus taught His disciples an incredible truth that day in two parts concerning the Kingdom of God. When He said, “Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven,” Jesus was teaching the power of the born-again experience that transforms us into newborn babes in Christ. Jesus had full intention of answering their questions, but not in the way that they understood. They first needed to understand that they would have to humble themselves and be converted to become a child of God. This was the first step to true exaltation in the Kingdom. You must be born again.

But Jesus did not stop there. The next thing He said was, “Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.” Here, Jesus is going to teach them the second part to this incredible truth of true exaltation in the Kingdom of Heaven.

The ongoing process of true spiritual growth is predicated on humbling ourselves as the little child that Jesus used in His example. However great anyone ever becomes in the Kingdom is built on the foundation of humility. And what is true humility? Jesus asks in Luke 6:46, “And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?” Jesus is asking us, “Why would you say to Me, ‘Lord, you are my Lord,’ and then not do that which I tell you to do?” True humility, or humbling ourselves, is for us to obey whatever Jesus tells us to do. How does this relate to us as the Body of Christ in the earth?

The cry of Heaven is for a Revival of God’s presence on the planet that will harvest billions of souls before Jesus comes back. But for God to accomplish this, He must find the authority that comes from yielded vessels. These yielded vessels will be no less than the ones who humble themselves and do what Jesus is asking them to do. Jesus is asking us to become prayer partners with Him in intercession to birth the greatest Revival that this planet has ever seen. The Holy Spirit is asking us to come away with Him into hidden places of prayer. These are secret places that are absent from the exaltation of men but will result in becoming greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. These are places where the Holy Spirit will turn our private worship and praying in tongues into rivers of authority that will bring down the demonic stronghold over our cities and regions. This will usher in the presence of God that will blanket our churches and cities. These prayer partners with Jesus will be exalted to the greatest place in the Kingdom of Heaven, which is to co-labor with the Holy Spirit.

Dear friend, this is not the time for you and me to allow any excuse as to why we cannot do whatever Jesus is asking us to do. This is our time on this planet to fulfill our divine destiny. This is our time to humble ourselves as little children and say, “Yes Jesus! I will give myself to this call!”

Once again, thank you so much for partnering with us in prayer and support for what God has called you and I to do. Without you, these things would not be possible. Thank you for humbling yourself in obedience to what Jesus tells you to do.

I will see you in the Revival!

Blessings,
Pastor Bronc